

easy to think of excuses for most arguments that are presented. Our purpose is not to lead people to the Lord by arguments, it is to lead them to see their sin, their need of a Saviour and to see the perfection ^{of Christ} the answer to their need. But they hide behind arguments against the existence of God, against His power, ~~agag/~~ against the truth of the Bible and we must cut down the trees behind ~~the~~ which they are hiding. We must show that these ^{arguments} ~~arguments~~ are not valid so that they stand face to face with the fact of their sin and their need of a Saviour.

And so there are many things that contribute to it but this is our -- the second of the primary purposes of the Christian and we need to appraise ourselves and see what we are doing and what we are able to do in this direction.

And then the third ~~pry~~ purpose is Helping Others to Grow in Grace. Finney, the evangelist, tells how in his early career, he went to a church, attended a church for a time before he had become a minister, where a young man was preaching and gave beautiful sermons bringing out certain aspects of Scriptural statements with tremendous emphasis upon having every word just right, beautiful works of art his sermons were, but he said there was no special relation to the heart and mind and needs of the hearer. And he said ^{That} he spoke to the minister and he said, the man said, "O my purpose is to learn to present first-class messages that will be works of art. And so I work over them to have perfect homilies, excellent works of art." ~~homily, perfect works of art.~~ Well now, of course, the more perfection we get into our messages the more effective they may be. But everything in relation to them must be related to their purpose. Preaching ~~or~~ teaching for their own sake accomplish nothing. They are important. So is personal activity important, ^{extremely important} ~~extremely important~~, but all of them must be for the purpose of winning souls to the Lord and of helping others to grow in grace. Now God has commanded the Christian to help in this work. Not just the minister. All Christians are to help others in their growth in grace. In Acts 20:31 Paul describe the work he did among the Ephesians during the 3 years that he was working with them, and of course he was preaching a great deal and working ~~there~~ there but he says in vs. 31 "Therefore watch and remember that by the space of 3 yrs. I ceased not to warn everyone night and day with tears." Now that does ~~not~~ bring out the full meaning in the English --